

## The World's Greatest Monster

"Then Herod, when he saw that he was mocked of the wise men, was exceedingly wrath, and sent forth and slew all the children that were in Bethlehem and in all the coasts thereof, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had diligently inquired of the wise men."

The killings by Herod represented vicious superstition and prejudice. Such killings have been numerous enough; superstition has prematurely ended some of the most useful lives ever begun on this earth.

But all that combined cruelty, superstition, race and religious hatred, and all other kinds of deliberate viciousness have accomplished, are as nothing compared with the killing that ignorance has done and does every day.

You read in this newspaper not long ago the official statement as to infant deaths in one of our forty-eight States. In one case of a hundred children born as many as eighty died within thirty days after birth. One hundred mothers went through the long period of waiting and discomfort, then endured the agony of child-birth, often with poverty as an additional difficulty. And at the end of thirty days, eighty mothers out of a hundred had buried their babies.

That speaks well for the power of Giant Ignorance; it speaks badly for the intelligence of the human race, which calls itself civilized.

Thousands of children have been condemned to blindness because the viciousness of fathers and the ignorance of mothers had combined against them. Merely wiping the eyes of a new-born child with a mild disinfectant would have prevented at least ninety-nine in one hundred cases of "blindness from birth."

In Egypt you see thousands blind from infancy. This blindness is due to ignorance and superstition combined. Flies swarm upon the eyes of infants too weak to defend themselves. The stupid superstition of the natives called "religion" forbids them to disturb or kill flies, which they conceive to be inhabited by souls like their own. The filth brought by the flies and their biting blind the babies.

Consumption is the greatest killer among "civilized" diseases. Consumption usually begins before the human being is two years old. The young child gets it from being kissed on the mouth by a consumptive father or mother. In a very young child the leucocytes—white corpuscles that defend the body against disease germ attacks—are not fully developed. The father or mother, ignorant of the fact that she has consumption, or ignorant of the fact that her kiss plants it in the body of her child, condemns that child to lifelong suffering and premature death.

Many of our worst diseases come to us from Asia. Ignorance and superstition teach the masses of India to bathe in the river Ganges and drink the water of that filthy stream. The diseased there wash their diseased bodies, the healthy drink the foul water. To make it more complete, those who have died of plague are set adrift floating on the river and carry disease all along the shore, ultimately feeding "sacred" crocodiles. A pretty religion, a fine aid for ignorance.

And when the nation governing India tries to check ignorance and stupidity, the natives fight desperately for their "right" to poison themselves with disease germs.

There are two kinds of ignorance—the kind that cannot as yet be helped. That ignorance is excusable if we work courageously to remedy it. The other kind, inexcusable, is the ignorance that prevails among ninety-nine per cent of the people, while one per cent possess the truth.

We do not know how to fight cancer, except by the surgeon's knife. That dreaded disease kills a number constantly increasing. We do not know WHY the increase comes. It kills more women than men—we do not understand that. When it gets a certain start it is incurable. Taken in time, it can be cut out and forgotten. But we UNDERSTAND nothing about it. The admirable Rockefeller Institute and other scientific institutions all over the world are fighting and studying the problem every day and every year. That is excusable ignorance, and we are fighting it.

The history of the human race to which you belong has been a persistent, slow, but unceasing, fight against Ignorance, the giant in this picture. That we HAVE fought Ignorance and won so many battles creates hope.

Ignorant men thought they must have slaves, in no other way could the world's work be done. But justice freed the slaves, and then knowledge provided machines to do the work better and more cheaply.

Ignorance in the days of Rome's grandeur built a temple to dreaded FEVER on a noble hill. People worshiped at the temple, submitted and died. Then knowledge discovered that "Roman fever" was caused by mosquitoes planting the disease in the human body. The breeding places of mosquitoes were wiped out and malaria ended in many places. Yellow fever, also carried by mosquitoes, was wiped out in Cuba, New Orleans, at Panama, and elsewhere.

The great cause of human suffering is IGNORANCE. SELFISHNESS and INDIFFERENCE breed and perpetuate ignorance.

This country is plagued with swamps that breed disease and carriers of disease. It is cursed with deserts, vast wasted areas, that hurt the nation's climate and diminish its wealth.

A small amount of money and of Government enterprise combined would drain the swamps and irrigate the deserts. The thing is left undone, but when war comes it ends indifference, checks selfishness, and Government spends without hesitation one hundred times as much as would clear this land of its deserts and swamps, wipe out disease-carrying mosquitoes, check consumption, and supply information and care that would save the lives of young children.

The water that the land needs is there in the ocean.

Here you see the Enemy, standing triumphant in the graveyard, HIS graveyard where children are buried in millions. Mr. McCay shows the spirits of the children in a great cloud flying upward. So many unnecessary deaths represent the greatest waste and greatest crime of all the waste and crime of this planet.

Mr. McCay here shows you King Herod, killer of children, on a retail scale, offering his crown to ignorance, the real champion.

This powerful picture is based on a statement made by a Government department, to the effect that King Herod who ordered the killing of the children was a mere amateur in killing compared with IGNORANCE.



Nature takes the trouble to lift it up for us and change it into clouds, carries it over the country, and drops it in rain. It is stored in the Great Lakes, goes to waste, back to the seas through the great rivers. We haven't the energy or the will to store it, keep it, and use it. That is INDIFFERENCE.

It is a shock to read of the high percentage of absolutely illiterate Americans enrolled in the army. A man unable to read represents lost opportunity.

It is a greater shock to realize how many human beings START their education, in public and other schools, then at fourteen years of age or a little older consider themselves "educated," when in reality they have only learned HOW TO LEARN, and from that moment they gradually discard the little beginnings of knowledge and join the ranks of the really IGNORANT.

They can read and write, add, multiply, and subtract. This makes them useful as clerks and other machines of commerce and industry. It does not make them useful as thinking citizens.

Men have the ballot and do not use it to protect themselves—IGNORANCE.

Men have science and could wipe out disease, practically, in a century. They do not do it—IGNORANCE, INDIFFERENCE.

This nation has wealth unlimited, ten times more than

enough for everybody. But its intelligence is devoted to getting too much for a FEW. The great crowd does not know how to organize Government and human beings so as to get enough for ALL.

Ninety per cent of Americans, inhabitants of the richest country in the world, spend their lives in anxiety and their old age in worry, more or less dependent on the young—IGNORANCE.

This nation has the ballot, free government, so-called. Human beings for thousands of years have fought and died to get that ballot.

And with a hundred million people possessing the ballot, a little group of men decide what they want and arrange to have the ballots cast accordingly, not for the hundred millions, but for the few—IGNORANCE.

Ignorance is the giant, the danger, the killer, the enemy of progress. Ignorance is really THE ONLY ENEMY. With the death of ignorance, ordinary, common, inexcusable, CONQUERABLE IGNORANCE, a majority of human ills will vanish.

Do what YOU can, as an individual within yourself, and as a citizen within the nation, to fight IGNORANCE, the enemy of all, including those that ignorantly exploit ignorance, thinking they are helping themselves when they injure others.

## Proclaim Liberty!

Writes Junius in a Letter to the Editor—Brilliant Correspondent Advocates the New Party.

Fellow Americans, a free people are sure to find their liberties attacked from time to time, and as they meet these attacks with manly courage and stout resistance or bend before them in mean and cowardly subservience, so they and their children remain free or become a race of slaves.

This Nation, this Republic, this America to which we are native, this land in which our fathers lived and died splendidly free, this dear Motherland, is now undergoing a series of concerted assaults upon the liberties of its people which we must all manfully meet and victoriously resist or else see those liberties trodden under the insulting feet of an autocratic and bureaucratic tyranny as insolent as the infamous tyranny which the people of Russia have overthrown and utterly destroyed.

What fundamental liberty, what inherent right, what guarantee of the Constitution, what affirmation of the Great Declaration, has not been denied, violated and contemptuously trampled upon by Federal and State Executives, legislators, judges and police agents within these three years just past?

Nowhere in the land have the inherent, fundamental and essential liberties of speech, of writing, of assembly and of collective petition and protest been respected by the bureaucrats created by the war, by the spy service produced in the same environment, or by the legislators chosen to voice the free will of the people or by the judges whose sworn duty it is to protect the rights and liberties of every citizen and to maintain unimpaired the guarantees and the supremacy of the Constitution.

Now, then, it is the lesson of all human experience that tyranny breeds revolt, that repression of natural rights breeds hatred even of lawful government, and that the surest way to make life and property unsafe is to make liberty unsafe.

And, since we do not propose to sit dumb and in cowardly silence witness the breeding of disorder, of discontent, of riot, of revolution and of destruction by the disregard of this fundamental law of national life, we enter our solemn protest against any further continuance of the brutal and lawless and tyrannical conduct which has disgraced our public servants and wronged our free people, and we call upon all Americans to protest with us, both by their voices now and by their ballots in the election which approaches.

The Democratic and the Republican party organizations, under the incredibly stupid and the viciously un-American leadership which controls their party machinery, are alike guilty of these assaults upon the rights and liberties of this land and of these abominable perversions and denials and contempt of the guarantees of our Great Charter of Free Government—that Constitution which our wise and good fathers made for the maintenance of the freedom they had won with arms in their manly hands, and intended for the maintenance of the same freedom among the children to whom they bequeathed it.

There is no place for a liberty-loving man in either the Democratic or the Republican party, as those parties are now controlled and as they now viciously and disloyally function.

The Republican leaders are controlled by and are wholly subservient to the profiteers who exploit us all.

The Democratic leaders are beneath the contempt of up-standing men. They are in the main simply poor spaniels, crawling to heel and cocking eager ears to hear their master's voice.

Look at the caliber of the leaders of these once great party organizations.

Look at their political associations, at their political morals, at their pitiful statesmanship, at their contemptible partisan tricks, at their cowardly and mean subservience to the Invisible Powers That Prey, at their shameless disregard of the plain commands of the Constitution which they falsely swore to uphold, to protect and to obey.

Look at them as they are—the forsworn misrepresentatives of a betrayed people.

Now, what part or lot have we free Americans with such political slaves of Mammon and such insolent practitioners of bureaucratic tyranny as these?

What is the thing we should do to maintain our liberties and our rightful sovereignty as the real rulers of a free nation?

Why, there is only one thing to do.

Form a Party of the People.

Reaffirm popular sovereignty!

Regain our rightful liberties!

Clean out these miserable politicians!

Look at the old Independence Bell—the bell which rang out that famous defiance to tyranny, that splendid declaration of the rights of man and the freedom of Americans.

See there the inspiring words which should burn in every American's heart and spring to every American's lips.

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT THE LAND AND TO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF."

There is your watchword.

There is your new party platform—

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY!"

What else does any true man or true woman desire or demand of government other than liberty?

Liberty to speak.

Liberty to publish.

Liberty to assemble.

Liberty to be represented.

Liberty to have a free voice and a free hand in the functions of popular government and in the selection and the control of the public servants who make and administer the laws of the land.

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY!"

Let those two noble and solemn words be alike our watchword, our platform, and our policy.

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY!"

Blazon that on the standards of the new party and let us all march together, shoulder to shoulder, to battle for the institutions and the life of our free and dear America.

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY!"

Form a Liberty Party.

Set aside differences of opinion as to this or to that policy or measure.

First of all, let us highly resolve and then by our action decisively determine that we are and intend to be, now and forever, a free people, sovereign in our own free land, governed by our own will and consent, and calling no man master, whether President, legislator or judge.

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY!"

Never mind about questions and issues of lesser import, no matter how important they may be in themselves.

We will attend to them when we get control of the machinery of government and legislation.

First, re-establish government of the people, for the people, by the people.

Then we can see what to do further—and do it.

But freedom first!

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY!"

Our old liberty, our rightful liberty, our ancient and well beloved Constitutional American liberty, left to us by our fathers.

"PROCLAIM LIBERTY THROUGHOUT THE LAND AND TO ALL THE INHABITANTS THEREOF."

(Signed) JUNIUS.